

**OBJECT ORIENTED FRAMEWORK MECHANISM AND METHOD FOR
PRODUCT CONFIGURATION SELECTION DETERMINATION**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An object oriented framework mechanism includes a platform independent
5 product configuration selection model that defines a hierarchy of information that may be
presented to a user for product configuration selection determination. The framework
mechanism defines logic that specifies at least one relationship between items in the
hierarchy of information. The framework operates on data stored external to the
framework mechanism, thereby achieving a separation between the logic in the
10 framework mechanism and the data upon which the logic in the framework mechanism
operates. The framework mechanism is data driven, which means that adding data for a
new product to the external data results in the framework mechanism autonomically
adding the new product data to the hierarchy of information in the product configuration
selection model.